UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/25363
4 March 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 4 MARCH 1993 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF RWANDA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Since the deterioration of conditions in my country is a threat to peace and security in the region, I have the honour, on instructions from my Government, to request an immediate meeting of the Security Council to consider ways of ensuring the cessation of the fighting, the observance of the cease-fire agreement signed at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, on 12 July 1992, and the implementation of the declarations issued by the Rwandese Patriotic Front on 21 February 1993 and the Government of Rwanda on 22 February 1993 with a view to restoring the cease-fire and thereby enabling the search for a negotiated political solution to continue.

The Government of Rwanda considers that a vital contribution to peace would be made if an international force to maintain the cease-fire could supervise the zone between the positions occupied by the Rwandese Patriotic Front and those occupied by the Rwandese armed forces prior to the violation of the cease-fire.

I transmit herewith the following documents regarding the situation in Rwanda:

(1) The N'sele Cease-fire Agreement between the Government of the Rwandese Republic and the Rwandese Patriotic Front, as amended at Gbadolite, 16 September 1991, and at Arusha, 12 July 1992.

(2) The declaration of cease-fire issued by the Rwandese Patriotic Front (21 February 1993).

(3) The declaration by the Government of Rwanda on the restoration of the cease-fire (22 February 1993).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annexes distributed as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Corneille MUNYAMPETA
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex I

[Original: English and French]

The N'sele Cease-fire Agreement between the Government of the Rwandese Republic and the Rwandese Patriotic Front, as amended at Gbadolite, 16 September 1991, and at Arusha, 12 July 1992

We, the representatives of the Government of the Rwandese Republic and of the Rwandese Patriotic Front,

Mindful of the unfortunate incidents that have occurred between the Rwandese and have affected peace and public order in the country,

Referring to the Communiqués issued by the Heads of State of the Region, meeting in Mwanza, United Republic of Tanzania on 17 October 1990, in Gbadolite, Zaire, on 26 October 1990 and in Goma, Zaire, on 20 November 1990,

Considering that all these Summit meetings specifically emphasized the prior need for a cease-fire,

Considering the acceptance of the cease-fire in principle by President Juvenal Habyarimana in Zanzibar on 17 February 1991 following his meeting with Presidents Yoweri Museveni of Uganda and Ali Hassan Mwinyi of the United Republic of Tanzania,

Mindful of the fact that Presidents Pierre Buyoya of Burundi, Juvenal Habyarimana of Rwanda, Ali Hassan Mwinyi of the United Republic of Tanzania, Yoweri Museveni of Uganda and Prime Minister Lunda Bululu of Zaire, assisted by the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and a delegate of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees adopted the Dar-es-Salaam Declaration of 19 February 1991 mandating President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire to take urgent and immediate steps to usher in dialogue which should culminate in a formal cease-fire agreement between the Government of Rwanda and the Rwandese Patriotic Front,

Mindful of the fact that the cease-fire should facilitate the establishment of negotiations between the Rwandese Government and the Rwandese Patriotic Front aimed at national reconciliation and restoration of lasting peace,

Considering that the two Parties reaffirmed their political will during their meeting in Paris from 6th to 8th June 1992 to find through negotiations a solution to the current conflict as well as related problems,

Considering that both parties are committed to conduct direct negotiations,

Mindful of the fact that both parties reaffirmed the validity of the Cease-fire Agreement signed at N'sele on 29th March 1991 and as amended on 16th September 1991 in Gbadolite subject to updating the agreement by making necessary amendments,

Have on this 12th day of July 1992, agreed on and accepted the following provisions with respect to the cease-fire:

ARTICLE I

1. A cease-fire is hereby established throughout the territory of the Republic of Rwanda, between the Government Forces and those of the Rwandese Patriotic Front. The cease-fire shall enter into force at midnight (Rwanda time) on 31st July 1992 at the same time as the deployment of the Neutral Military Observer Group.

2. The entry into force of the cease-fire shall be preceded by a truce, that is, the cessation of fighting, which shall enter into force at midnight (Rwanda time) on 19th July 1992.

3. The present Cease-fire Agreement is the first stage of a peace process which shall culminate in a Peace Agreement to be signed at the conclusion of the political negotiations.

ARTICLE II

The cease-fire shall imply:

1. The cessation of all hostilities for the purpose of dialogue and serious negotiations between the two parties under the auspices of the Mediator or a Facilitator;

2. The suspension of supplies of ammunition and weaponry to the field;

3. The supply of non-lethal logistical needs to the military forces in the field;

4. The release of all prisoners-of-war; the effective release of all persons arrested because and as a result of this war within five days following the entry into force of the Cease-fire Agreement;

5. The possibility of recovering the remains of the dead;

6. The withdrawal of all foreign troops after the effective deployment of the Neutral Military Observer Group (NMOG) except for Military Officers serving in Rwanda under bilateral Cooperation Agreements;

7. A ban on infiltration of troops and on the conveyance of troops and war material to the area occupied by each party;

8. A ban on any mine-laying operations or the hindering of operations to remove the mines;

9. The establishment of the Neutral Corridor separating the areas occupied by the two respective forces. This corridor meant to facilitate the monitoring of the cease-fire by the Neutral Military Observer Group shall be determined in consideration of the front-lines of both armies. The demarcation on the field shall be established by the representatives of the two armies in the presence of the Neutral Military Observer Group.

ARTICLE III

1. The verification and control of the cease-fire shall be conducted by the neutral military observer group under the supervision of the Secretary-General of OAU;

2. The Neutral Military Observer Group shall be composed of:

10 Officers from Nigeria;

10 Officers from Senegal;

10 Officers from Zimbabwe;

10 Officers from an African country to be chosen by the current Chairman of the OAU in collaboration with the President of the United Republic of Tanzania;

5 Officers from the Government of Rwanda;

5 Officers from the Rwandese Patriotic Front;

3. The Neutral Military Observer Group shall report any violation of the cease-fire to the Secretary-General of OAU and a joint political military commission;

4. The Neutral Military Observer Group shall set up the organs and machinery required for the control and verification of the cease-fire. It shall draft its own rules of procedure. It shall enjoy a status that would enable it to perform its mission as provided in the Cease-fire Agreement; including privileges and immunities enjoyed by the OAU personnel as enshrined in the general agreement;

5. The Neutral Military Observer Group shall have full communication and other equipment it deems necessary to perform its mission. The NMOG officers may have specific uniforms with insignia for easy identification, and light weapons for self-defence.

ARTICLE IV

1. A Joint Political Military Commission composed of 5 representatives of the Rwandese Government and 5 of the Rwandese Patriotic Front is established;

2. The OAU and the following countries are invited to participate, as observers, in the Joint Commission: Burundi, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Zaire, Belgium, France and the United States of America;

3. The Joint Commission shall have the following mandate:

- To ensure the follow-up of the implementation of the Cease-fire Agreement;

- To ensure the follow-up of the implementation of the peace Agreement to be signed at the conclusion of the political negotiations;

4. The Joint Commission shall be based at the OAU Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Commission's Headquarters may be moved upon agreement by both parties;

5. The Joint Commission shall hold its inaugural meeting not later than 26th July 1992.

ARTICLE V

The signatories of the present agreement accept the following principles whose modalities of implementation shall be specified during the political negotiations.

1. Establishment of the rule of law, that is, based namely on national unity, democracy, pluralism, and respect for human rights;

2. Formation of a national army consisting of Government forces and those of the Rwandese Patriotic Front;

3. Establishment of power-sharing within the framework of a broad-based transitional government.

ARTICLE VI

The political negotiations culminating in the peace agreement shall proceed pursuant to the following calendar:

1. Commencement of the political negotiations: 10th August 1992;

2. Completion of the political negotiations and signing of the peace agreement: not later than 10 October 1992;

3. Completion of the implementation of the mechanisms and conclusions agreed upon pursuant to the peace Agreement: not later than 10 January 1993.

ARTICLE VII

In the present Agreement:

1. "Cease-fire" shall mean the cessation of all hostilities between the forces of the Government of the Rwandese Republic and those of the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF) throughout the national territory of Rwanda.

2. "Cessation of hostilities" shall mean the end of all military operations, all harmful civil operations and denigrating and unfounded propaganda through the mass media.

3. "Violation of the Cease-fire" shall mean the non-observance of one of the points mentioned in article II.

4. "Violation of the Cease-fire Agreement" shall mean the non-observance of any provision of the agreement.

Done in Arusha on 12th July 1992

For the Rwandese Government:

(Signed) Boniface NGULINZIRA
Minister for Foreign Affairs
and Cooperation

For the Rwandese Patriotic Front:

(Signed) Pasteur BIZIMUNGU
Member of the Executive Committee
for Information and Documentation

For the Facilitator (the United Republic of Tanzania)

(Signed) Hon. Ahmed Hassan DIRIA (MP)
Minister for Foreign Affairs and
International Cooperation

In the presence of the
Representative of the Secretary-General
of the OAU

(Signed) M. T. MAPURANGA
Assistant Secretary-General in
Charge of Political Affairs

Annex II

[Original: English and French]

Declaration of cease-fire

The Rwandese Patriotic Front in line with its continued search for a peaceful and negotiated settlement to the conflict in Rwanda is hereby declaring an immediate cease-fire. It should be remembered that this declaration comes after the one made on 10 February 1992, which was not respected by the Rwandese Government Forces. The Rwandese Patriotic Front is once again calling upon the Rwandese Government Forces to respond to this declaration for the sake of peace.

In order for the cease-fire to hold firmly, the following should be put into action:

1. The Rwandese Government Forces must remain in the positions they are presently occupying;

2. The Rwandese Patriotic Front Army will pull back to its former positions;

3. The area the Rwandese Patriotic Front Army will pull out from shall be a buffer zone and will be used to monitor the implementation of the cease-fire;

4. The monitoring of the cease-fire should be done by an expanded OAU-sponsored Neutral Military Observer Group team since the operational area will now be bigger;

5. Arusha negotiations should resume as soon as possible.

It is absolutely necessary that the implementation of the above should be agreed upon with the Government of Rwanda.

Byumba, 21 February 1993

(Signed) Colonel Alexis KANYARENGWE
Chairman of the Rwandese
Patriotic Front

Annex III

[Original: French]

Declaration by the Government of Rwanda on the restoration of the cease-fire

The Government of the Rwandese Republic confirms its declaration on the restoration of the cease-fire, issued on 15 February 1993, under the terms of which a truce was to be observed along the whole of the front line.

This truce, which initially was to last for one week, is extended from Monday, 22 February 1993, at midnight, until the restoration of the cease-fire, in accordance with the Cease-fire Agreement signed at Arusha on 12 July 1992.

The Government of Rwanda notes with regret that, despite its declaration of a truce dated 15 February 1993 and the declaration issued by the Rwandese Patriotic Front and dated 10 February 1993, numerous violations of the cease-fire have continued to be committed by the Rwandese Patriotic Front during the past week.

The Government of Rwanda confirms its decision to observe the truce and therefore accepts the proposals formulated by the Rwandese Patriotic Front in its declaration of cease-fire of 21 February 1993, to which the Government of Rwanda gives the following response:

1. The Rwandese armed forces are to remain in their current position;

2. The army of the Rwandese Patriotic Front must regain the positions it occupied previously, as observed and established by the Neutral Military Observer Group;

3. The zone between the positions previously occupied by the Rwandese Patriotic Front and those previously occupied by the Rwandese armed forces is to be considered a demilitarized neutral zone which will be used for monitoring the implementation of the cease-fire;

4. The monitoring of the cease-fire is to be supervised by an international force for maintaining the cease-fire under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations;

5. Those displaced by the war will be installed in the demilitarized neutral zone and will receive the protection of the international force for maintaining the cease-fire;

6. The Arusha negotiations are to resume on 1 March 1993 at the latest;

7. The Government of Rwanda requests a meeting of the joint political-military commission in ten days' time to consider all the technical aspects of the observance of the cease-fire.

Kigali, 22 February 1993

(Signed) Boniface NGULINZIRA
Minister for Foreign Affairs
and Cooperation